

MEBANE ENTERPRISE

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Nearby Eno River Brewing is open at last

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Stallions blank Cedar Ridge in first scrimmage at new football field

See page 10



Veterans leading way for Eagles as season opens

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Beloved restaurant Martinho's up for sale

ADAM POWELL
STAFF WRITER/MEBANE ENTERPRISE

After more than three decades as a staple of downtown Mebane's food scene, one of the town's most appreciated downtown dining spots has recently hit the local real estate market.

Martinho's, the beloved local eatery at 106 W. Clay Street, has been in business since 1990. The two-story property, built in 1929, includes approximately 25 feet

of frontage along W. Clay Street. The approximately 0.37-acre property also includes a 30-space parking lot in the rear of the building that will be included with the sale.

For the last 33 years, Martinho's earned a well-deserved reputation throughout the region for delicious, affordable food - particularly its sandwiches, pizza, and homemade desserts - and the long lines that often formed inside at midday at Mebanites get hungry for lunch.

Over the years, it has often served local residents and business owners well to call their Martinho's lunch orders in - if they could even get through among all the other callers.

Current owner Lou Martinho took over the restaurant's operations back in 2008, when his parents, Portuguese immigrants Maria and Artur, the original owners of Martinho's, retired.

see MARTINHO'S, page 7

PLAYING THE NUMBERS



The members of 723 are, from left, Brian Finch, Tramaine Bowman, Maxx Alvarez, Gabriel 'Space Sam' Alvarez and Brandon Finch.

DALE EDWARDS/MEBANE ENTERPRISE

Local youths show off talent, powerful sound

DALE EDWARDS
MANAGING EDITOR/MEBANE ENTERPRISE

July 23 is Tramaine Bowman's birthday. It's a set of numbers — 7-2-3 — that kept popping up, whether it was 7:23 p.m., or numbers on the license tag of the car in front of him in traffic, those three digits were practically stalking Tramaine.

In the later part of October 2021, Tramaine was in his aunt's kitchen with his brother and grandmother. Their mother had passed away earlier that month, and they were reminiscing about her with relatives.

"My grandmother told me and my brother that when my mom would come

and see us before we went to school in the morning, it was 7:23 when she looked at the clock," Tramaine said. "And then my aunt came in and told me and my brother that she was with my mom when she passed, and that she took her last breath at 7:23 in the morning."

A week or so later, he and his friends were at Boxyard RTP between Durham and Raleigh where they were going to perform for an open-mic night. The band, which was without a name at the time, was scheduled to go on stage at 7:45.

While he was chatting with another musician, his band mate, Gabriel Alvarez — who goes by Space Sam — frantically told him there was a scheduling

change and their band would have to go on early. Yes, it was 7:23 p.m. when they were going to take the stage.

As they were getting set up to play, the event organizer asked them if they had a band name.

"I was, like, 'No,' but Space Sam, who knew the back story about the numbers, said, 'Just go with 723,'" Tramaine said. "So, I told the guy 'We're 723,' and he introduced us as 723, and that's what we've been ever since."

The band is comprised of Tramaine, Space Sam, Maxx Alvarez and Brandon and Brian Finch. Tramaine briefly attended Orange High School before

see 723, page 2

Navigating Back to School Traffic Safety

BY KELLY HUNTER
SPECIAL TO THE MEBANE ENTERPRISE

A new academic school year is upon us, and with that comes the chance for new possibilities, friends, potential hobbies, and personal growth. The City of Mebane is excited to welcome its youth back to school but wants the community to be vigilant and cautious when driving near school zones and school buses. Every child deserves the right to an education and to make it to and from school safely every day. According to the Transporta-

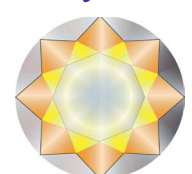
MEBANE City Beat

tion Research Board, however, 25,000 children are injured annually, and more than 100 are killed on average while walking to or from school because of speeding. The Mebane Police Department wants to do its job and protect citizens from a tragedy like this occurring in our community by informing the public of traffic safety measures they can take.

"Students are headed back to the classroom and keeping them safe should always be top of mind," states Deputy Chief Byrd making safety the top priority for the 2023-2024 Academic School Year. The Mebane Police Department will utilize various means to ensure our children's safety and to increase awareness while educating drivers and kids. The police intend to inform the community by posting safety tips on the Mebane Police Department's social media pages. The

see MEBANE CITY BEAT, page 6

Today in the Mebane Enterprise



Weekend Weather
Friday: 89/65 Mostly Sunny
Saturday: 88/65 Mostly Sunny
Sunday: 91/67 Sunny

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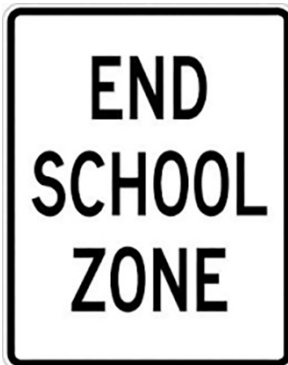


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information will be related to the locations of Mebane's current school zones, the speed limit for each specific zone, and the times these school zone speeds are in place. The Mebane Police Department will ensure school traffic safety for our youth by arriving early on location to be present before school hours begin. This will increase visibility and alert drivers that they are entering a school zone. Another safety measure will involve deploying speed trailers just before the beginning of the new school year to remind drivers to be mindful of their respective speeds and enhance their awareness of school zones. Officers will proactively enforce speeding in school zones by reminding motorists of the speed limit. The traffic unit also has strategic speed initiatives planned that will be conducted to educate our community and decrease speeding motorists in our local school zones.

One of the best ways to avoid an accident during the morning/evening rush is to allow yourself extra time to get from point A to point B. If you leave a little earlier, you allow enough time not to be caught in a rush yourself. Leaving only 10 minutes earlier can assist you in not having to speed or engage in distracting behavior that could result in a crash. Practice self-discipline by allotting yourself an extra ten minutes to get to your destination and avoid engaging in distractions such as being on your phone or eating food, as these typically are the cause of most crashes. You should also increase your following distance to give yourself more time to react to situations on the road and be prepared to compensate if the driver in front of you is less skilled. Another valuable tool for getting children to and from school safely is to learn different routes and have a backup route in place if there are crashes or delays.



You always want at least two or three different ways you are familiar with available for you to use in the event of an emergency.

Did you know that as a driver, you are responsible for knowing what all traffic control signs mean? According to the North Carolina Driving School, 54 percent of the public does not know what an advance warning sign for a school is. The Mebane Police Department has compiled a few of the most widely used school traffic signs to reiterate what each traffic sign means for drivers.

A "School Speed Limit" sign indicates the speed limit for the school zone you are about to enter. The language at the bottom of the sign indicates the hours of the day in which this school zone limit is enforced. During this time, drivers must obey the lower posted speed limit to ensure everyone's safety.

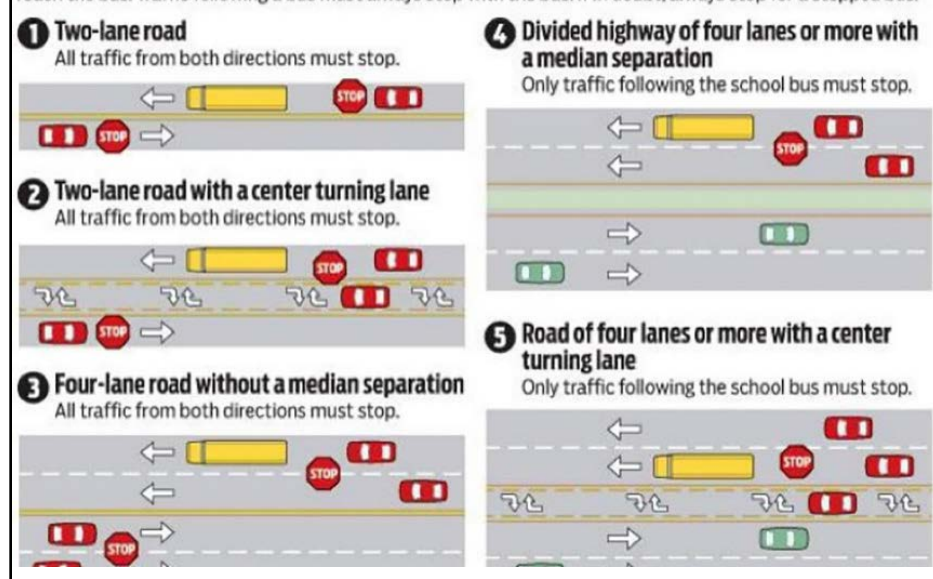
If you see this "SCHOOL" marking in the roadway, it indicates you are entering a designated school zone. Motorists Drivers should drive with caution in this area and around this area.

The "End School Zone" sign informs drivers they have now reached the end of the school zone however, drivers are still encouraged to drive with care.

One of the biggest concerns regarding school traffic safety pertains to school buses. In North Carolina, the Department of Transportation announced that there were 398 crashes involving school buses, resulting in 234 injuries and two deaths in 2020. Then in 2021, school bus-related crashes killed 108 people nationwide, according to the National Safety Council. Everyone needs to stay alert and understand school bus stop laws to protect the community. A flashing yellow signal light indicates a bus is preparing to stop to load or unload children. Drivers should begin slowing their vehicles down and prepare to stop. A flashing red light and extended stop arm indicate the bus has stopped and children are getting on or off the bus. Drivers MUST stop their cars and



All traffic must stop for a stopped bus, unless it is on a road of four or more lanes with a median or center turning lane. In those instances, oncoming traffic does not have to stop because children will not be crossing the road to reach the bus. Traffic following a bus must always stop with the bus. If in doubt, always stop for a stopped bus.



wait until the red lights stop flashing, the extended-stop arm is withdrawn, and the bus begins moving before they can start driving again. On a two-lane road, all traffic from both directions must stop. All traffic from both directions must stop on a two-lane highway with a center turn lane. If you are driving on a four-lane road without a median for separation, all traffic from both directions must stop. If a bus stops on a divided highway of four lanes or more, but there is a median present, only traffic following the school bus must stop. If a road contains four lanes or more with a center turning lane, only traffic following the school bus must stop.

While operators of motor vehicles should know the rules of the road and be vigilant, parents and legal guardians also need to take responsibility and teach their children proper etiquette for bus safety. Kids can be eager to get on and off the bus, but they should always pay attention to traffic and never play near the road

while waiting for the bus. Children should always walk in front of the bus where the driver can see them. Upon boarding the school bus, kids should remain seated at all times and keep their hands, feet, and book bags inside or under their seats so they can keep the aisle clear for other students entering or exiting the bus. Legs and feet should be placed in front of you; you should never stick your arms or head out of the bus windows. Children should keep their voices low to avoid distracting the driver and be courteous to the bus driver and other students. We must educate our youth on these bus safety precautions to ensure a safe space for everyone to travel to school and receive an education. "Safety is a team sport where we all must be involved and committed to doing our part. Mebane PD is here to enhance safety and support each community member, so families and friends can enjoy those fun times ahead," stated Chief Mitch McKinney.

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